## Message Text

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**ACTION EA-14** 

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 DPW-01 INRE-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10

PA-03 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 NIC-01 DRC-01

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O R 201200Z SEP 73 FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7312 INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ELAB, VS

SUBJECT: JAILED LABOR LEADERS

REF: A. SAIGON 15922 B. SAIGON 16752

- 1. TRAN QUOC BUU TOLD LABATT SEPTEMBER 20 THAT THE PRIME MINISTER HAD INFORMED HIM THAT AN ORDER HAD BEEN SIGNED RELEASING THE RECENTLY TRIED AND CONVICTED TRADE UNION LEADERS. ACCORDING TO BUU, OIL WORKER NGHIEP, BANK WORKER SI AND RAILROAD WORKER DONG WILL BE RELEASED IN HIS CUSTODY THE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 21. BUU GAVE LABATT A COPY OF HIS LETTER TO THE DIRECTOR OF MILITARY JUSTICE STATING THAT THE CVT WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR CONDUCT. THIS LETTER WAS A CONDITION REQUIRED BY LT. GEN. DANG VAN QUANG, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR MILITARY AND SECURITY AFFAIRS IN ORDER TO EFFECT THE RELEASE OF THE PRISONERS.
- 2. BUU STATED THAT WHEN HE RETURNED FROM HIS RECENT TRIP TO EUROPE HE WAS ANGERED AT LEARNING OF THE TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF THE THREE UNION OFFICIALS. BUU TOLD PRESIDENT THIEU THAT HE HAD TOLD THE ILO, WCL AND ICFTU OFFICIALS THAT THE UNION LEADERS CONFIDENTIAL

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WERE BEING RELEASED AND THAT THEIR TRIAL AND CONVICTION MADE A LIAR

OUT OF HIM. BUU CONTENDS THAT THIS CAUSED PRESIDENT THIEU TO INTERVENE WITH THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES ON BEHALF OF THE JAILED UNION OFFICIALS.

3. REF B REPORTS GVN SPOKESMANS ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE RELEASES AT THE SEPTEMBER 20 PM PRESS CONFERENCE. APPLING

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Executive Order: GS APPLING

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Type: TE

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